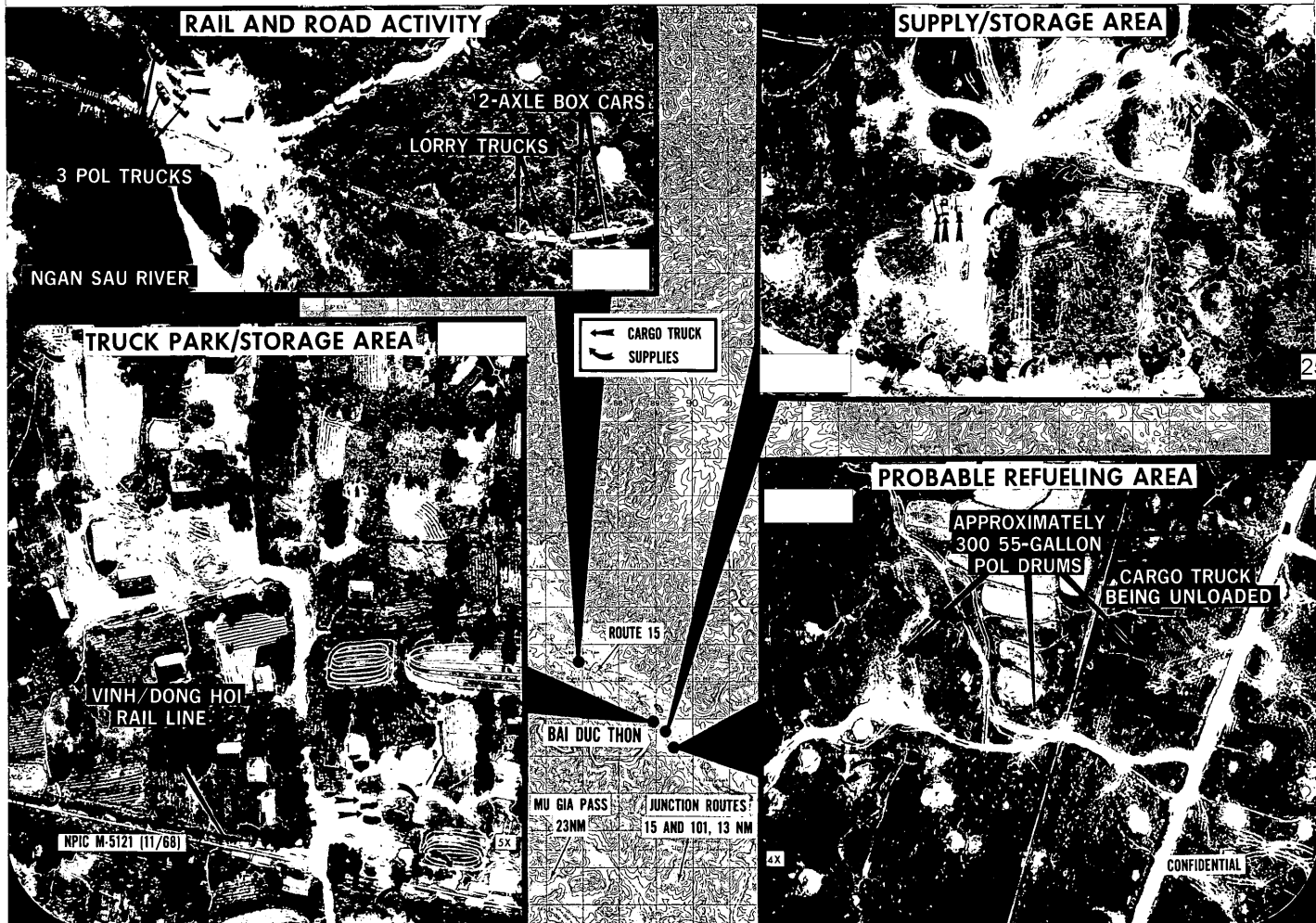


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INCREASED LOGISTICS ACTIVITY
BAI DUC THON AREA, NORTH VIETNAM
18-03N 105-50E

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REFERENCE: UE 493Y

ATTACHMENT TO M-5121
2 DECEMBER 1968
PAGE 1

INCREASED LOGISTICS ACTIVITY
BAI DUC THON, NORTH VIETNAM
1803N 10550E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS INCREASED LOGISTICS ACTIVITY IN THE BAI DUC THON AREA SINCE THE 1 NOVEMBER 1968 BOMBING HALT.

2. LOCATION: 18 NM SOUTHWEST OF HA TINH, NORTH VIETNAM AND 23 NM NORTH OF MU GIA PASS ON ROUTE 15.

3. BACKGROUND:

BAI DUC THON HAS BEEN USED IN THE PAST AS A REST/REFUELING AND STAGING AREA FOR SOUTHBOUND CONVOYS GOING THROUGH MU GIA PASS. WHEN IDENTIFIED IN 1963 IT WAS THE LARGEST AREA OF ITS KIND. CONVOYS WERE OBSERVED WAITING IN THE STAGING AREAS PRESUMABLY FOR NIGHTFALL BEFORE MOVING OUT ON ROUTE 15. THE AREA WAS SUBJECTED TO HEAVY AIRSTRIKES AND HAS BEEN LARGELY INACTIVE UNTIL THE PRESENT TIME.

4. MISSION READOUT:

MISSION UE 493Y OF 8 NOVEMBER 1968 REVEALS A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN LOGISTICS ACTIVITY NEAR BAI DUC THON.

RAIL ACTIVITY ON THE VINH/DONG HOI LINE INCLUDES THREE 2-AXLE BOX CARS AND TWO LORRY TRUCKS. NOT DEPICTED ON THE GRAPHIC ARE FOUR ADDITIONAL 2-AXLE BOX CARS, ONE BEING TOWED BY A LORRY TRUCK. THE RAIL LINE IN THIS AREA

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APPEARS TO BE SERVICEABLE. ALSO OBSERVED ARE SEVEN CARGO TRUCKS AND THREE POL TRUCKS FORDING THE NGAN SAN RIVER.

A LARGE PROBABLE REFUELING AREA CONTAINS SEVERAL HUNDRED 55 GALLON POL DRUMS WITH PULL-OFFS AND PARKING AREAS FOR VEHICLES. ONE CARGO TRUCK PARKED ON ROUTE 15 IS BEING UNLOADED BY SEVERAL PERSONNEL.

AN AREA WHICH WAS FORMALLY A SMALL TRUCK PARK HAS BEEN CONVERTED TO A LARGE OPEN SUPPLY STORAGE AREA. THIS AREA CONTAINS NUMEROUS STACKS OF UNIDENTIFIED SUPPLIES. SOME OF THESE SUPPLIES ARE CANVAS COVERED, SOME ARE BRUSH COVERED, AND SOME ARE OUT IN THE OPEN. THE AREA CONTAINS AT LEAST FOUR CARGO TRUCKS.

A TRUCK PARK/STORAGE AREA CONTAINING AT LEAST FOUR TRUCKS AND NUMEROUS STACKS OF UNIDENTIFIED SUPPLIES IS ALSO OBSERVED.

5. REMARKS:

APPARENTLY BAI DUC THON HAS BEEN REACTIVATED AS A STAGING AREA FOR CONVOYS USING ROUTE 15. NUMEROUS CARGO TRUCKS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED NORTHWEST OF THE AREA AND TO THE SOUTHEAST. THERE APPEARS TO BE TRANSSHIPPING ACTIVITY TAKING PLACE AS THE TRUCKS ARRIVING FROM THE SOUTH ARE EMPTY AND THOSE FROM THE NORTH ARE LOADED. THIS ACTIVITY APPARENTLY INDICATES A RESUPPLY EFFORT USING THE MU GIA PASS AND THE LAOS ROADNET PROBABLY AT NIGHT, ALTHOUGH VEHICLES DESTINED FOR LAOS VIA ROUTES 101 AND 137 MAY ALSO UTILIZE THESE FACILITIES.

MAP REFERENCE: AMS SERIES L7014 SHEET 6145 II, SCALE 1:50,000

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